



# Bayou Health Quality Committee (BHQC)

October 25, 2013

1:00-3:00 PM

628 N. Fourth Street, Room 118 Baton Rouge, LA 70821

## Meeting Notes

Bayou Health Quality Committee Attendance		
Rebekah Gee, M.D.	Chair, Medicaid Medical Director	Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
Brian Sibley, M.D. <i>(Phone)</i>	Vice Chair, Pediatrician	Special Needs Children Acadiana
Marcus Wallace, M.D. <i>(Phone)</i>	Senior Medical Director	Amerigroup
Yolonda Hill-Spooner, M.D.	Medical Director	Amerihealth Caritas Louisiana
David E. Thomas, M.D. <i>(Absent)</i>	Medical Director	Louisiana Healthcare Connections
Ann Kay Logarbo, M.D.	Medical Director	United Healthcare Community Plan
Stewart Gordon, M.D. <i>(Substitute: Michael Coogan, M.D.)</i>	Medical Director	Community Health Solutions
John A. Vanchiere, M.D.	Pediatrician	Pediatric Infectious Disease
Sandra Blake, MBA, PhD/Eddy Myers	Director, Office of Outcome Research & Evaluation	College of Pharmacy University of Louisiana at Monroe
James Hussey, M.D.	Medical Director	Louisiana Behavioral Health Partnership
Justin Bennett <i>(Phone)</i>	Nurse Practitioner	Rural Health Nursing
Lyn Kieltyka, PhD <i>(Absent)</i>	Epidemiologist	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Mary Noel	Director of Case Management	HCA Mid America
Libby Gonzales	Secretary	Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
Representative Scott Simon <i>(Absent)</i>	Chair, House Health and Welfare Committee	La. House of Representatives
Chris Wroten, O.D. <i>(Absent)</i>	Director of Optometry	La. Senate Health & Welfare Committee, House of Representatives
Sonya Nelson <i>(Phone)</i>	Executive Director	Amerigroup

Joe Rosier <i>(Phone)</i>	Chief Executive Officer	Rapides Foundation, Central Louisiana
Ron Ritchey, M.D. <i>(Absent)</i>	Chief Medical Officer	eQhealth Solutions
M. Maitland DeLand, M.D. <i>(Absent)</i>	President, Chief Executive Officer and Owner	OncoLogics, Inc.,

**1:00-1:10 PM: Call to Order and Welcome & Introductions**

Dr. Rebekah Gee, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Chair, Bayou Health Quality Committee, Medicaid Medical Director, and Dr. Bryan Sibley, Vice Chair

**1:10-1:40 PM: Old Business**

• **EPSDT/AAP Bright Futures Schedule**—Dr. Rebekah Gee,  
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

- Louisiana Medicaid (fee for service and BAYOU HEALTH Shared Plan claims that process through the Molina claims processing system) has adopted the American Academy of Pediatrics Bright Futures current schedule. The Department will review future updates to the Bright Futures schedule and will amend the Louisiana Medicaid EPSDT Periodicity schedule so long as the changes do not adversely impact the budget. Providers may download a PDF version at [www.la.medicaid.com](http://www.la.medicaid.com). Providers should begin utilizing the current EPSDT Periodicity chart effective immediately.
- Dr. Logarbo asked if there is a reason why we are not following the nutritional assessment. However, Bright Futures does include BMI.
- DHH will look into the nutrition issue and possible nutrition HEDIS measures.

• **Choosing Wisely**—Dr. Rebekah Gee,  
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

- Per the suggestion of Choosing Wisely, annual pap smears are not recommended anymore. However, if a patient is high-risk, then they are still recommended.
- DHH will look into non-payment for annuals unless there is a high-risk.

• **Low Level Emergency Department Visit Authorization**—Jen Steele,  
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

- DHH is looking into a possible triage fee for emergency room visits. Future updates to come as we engage national experts on this issue.

• **Vaccine Administration Modifiers**—Cindy Caroon,  
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

- CMS has released updated guidance related to these services that no longer includes the option of deactivation of the code pairs. Effective January 2014, Louisiana Medicaid fee for service (legacy) and Bayou Health Shared Savings Plan claims processing must reactivate these edits. However, CMS does provide the following guidance that will allow both the immunization administration and the preventive medicine evaluation and management (E/M) service to be reimbursed. See handout for more details.

• **Bayou Health Performance Measure Targets for 2014-2015**—Josh Hardy  
and Dwana Green, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

- The five Bayou Health Money Measure baselines will be re-run to include third party liability (TPL) by December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- DHH is seeking feedback by the Bayou Health Quality Committee and other stakeholders on performance measures. Please rank the performance measures by order of importance and make suggestions on measures you would like to see included in the future. Provide feedback to Joshua.Hardy@LA.GOV.
- The Office of Public Health (OPH) and DHH may be providing supplemental data to the Bayou Health Plans on the chlamydia measure. Reason being that there may be disconnects between the OPH units and the lab orders. We are looking into this issue.
- Dr. Vanchiere asked whether the measure that tests for pharyngitis is still useful. Dr. Gee recommended submitting the feedback in writing.

• **Requirements for Pre-Authorization of Medications to Treat STIs—**

Dr. Rebekah Gee, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

- There are no longer any pre-authorizations for any medications to treat STIs.
- This was confirmed by all Bayou Health Plans during the meeting.
- Dr. Gee shared with the Quality Committee that DHH is looking into a SPA Take Charge waiver to cover treatment of STIs, in addition to the current method of only testing. This SPA would also cover both men and women.

• **Home Assessment —**

Dr. Rebekah Gee, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

- Dr. Gee strongly encourages the pre-paid plans to consider paying for at home asthma assessments through Our Lady of the Lake Children's Hospital Community Asthma Management Program.
- Asthma is a CHIPRA measure.
- See letter from Our Lady of the Lake for more details on their certification program.
- Dr. Spooner said that Amerihealth Caritas Louisiana is interested. They have requested the tool and is looking into implementation steps.
- Louisiana Healthcare Connections has a telephonic case management home assessment plan.

**1:50-2:45 PM: New Business**

• **ADHD Drugs—**

Dr. Rebekah Gee and Ryan Bilbo, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

- See presentation for complete details.
- There is enormous variation in which children get prescribed ADD medication. The data presented is a first attempt at trying to understand these trends. Of those children enrolled in Medicaid, about 1 in 3 are on these medications. Region 5 and Lake Charles are much higher than the other regions. We do not know why these discrepancies are occurring or what the Gold Standard is; could be high or low. Those children who are younger when they enter kindergarten are more likely to be on medication.
- IPRO said that NYC has similar discrepancies and through research, learned that schools contributed to the high numbers.
- Dr. Hussey said that this data is troubling but is concurrent with what is happening across the U.S. There is a lot of variance in the data, both under and over prescribing being an issue. It is critical that we diagnose accurately. There is a cognitive bias with the school system. The medications help children to focus and pay better attention, whether they have ADD or not.

- Dr. Hussey suggested looking at screenings, consultation and referral process to analyze the current process.
- Next step: Motion to create a work group led by Dr. Hussey. Engage Bayou Health Plan Medical Directors, IPRO, school-based health clinics and Magellan when we are farther along in data analysis.

• **Vaginal Progesterone as an alternative to 17P/Makena—**

Dr. Rebekah Gee, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

- Currently, both Louisiana Healthcare Connections and Amerigroup already pay for vaginal progesterone. Dr. Wallace will share his data upon completion.
- All three pre-paid plans are working with Alere.
- DHH is continuing to try and come up with a solution regarding coverage of Makena. We don't want to disrupt the usage of 17P as it works well in certain areas of the State of Louisiana.
- Yes, Makena is FDA approved however, it cannot be created through compounding pharmacies at this time. It is a complex issue that all states are challenged by, not only Louisiana Medicaid.
- Dr. Thomas pointed out that 90% of children's medications are not FDA approved. Medication must be FDA approved for something but not necessarily the indication that it is being used to treat in order to be covered by Medicaid. Dr. Gee said she would pursue that angle further.
- Dr. Spooner said that even if Makena were to be covered, there is still a need for provider and patient education and compliance

• **BRAC Analysis RX Genetic Testing—**

Dr. Rebekah Gee and Jen Steele, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

- See attachments for detailed information.  
Governor Jindal brought this issue to the table for Medicaid. The Affordable Care Act has a 1% drawdown of all USPSTF services, including BRAC.
- In addition, we should be covering all recommended vaccines.
- Jen Steele said one of Medicaid's challenges when adding new coverage is to show and calculate true fiscal impact. We are prioritizing our list of new preventative coverage items. For example, contraceptives are easier to quantify whereas vaccines are proving to be more difficult.
- Dr. Vanchiere suggested looking at national guidelines on how many women need testing.
- Dr. Logarbo asked for an update on getting coverage for the pneumococcal vaccine.
- Jen Steel replied that it was submitted in Mid-October. We are now waiting for the Governor to approve the 2015 budget (this would begin July 1 of 2014). In the interim, we would have to go through a rule making process in order to implement it in the current year while being cognizant of the costs to annualize it. Additionally, just because the Legislature approves coverage, it is up to Medicaid to offset the costs.
- Dr. Gee noted that that we are trying to change the culture of Medicaid and pay for things that prevent illness but again, these require more complex calculations.  
Best Practices used by different states for coverage is not public information.
- The suggestion was made to use the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, the U.S. Military, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the Institute of Medicine as resources.
- Coverage of Tdap for pregnant women needs to be a high-priority.
- Next Steps: If anyone has any thoughts on specific genetic tests that should be covered, please email Dr. Gee. It was suggested by the Committee to engage groups on issues such as this via email in the interim between quarterly meetings.

• **Molecular Pathology Lab Codes**

Gaynell Denova, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

- **Flu Vaccines—**

Frank Welch, Medical Director, Immunization Program, Louisiana Office of Public Health

- **Perinatal Clinical Guidelines Committee—**

Dr. Rebekah Gee, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals

**2:45-3:00 PM: Discussion and Next Steps**

Dr. Rebekah Gee, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals and Dr. Bryan Sibley

**Save the Date for Bayou Health Quality Committee Meetings in 2014:**

- January 24, 2014
- April 25, 2014
- July 25, 2014
- October 24, 2014